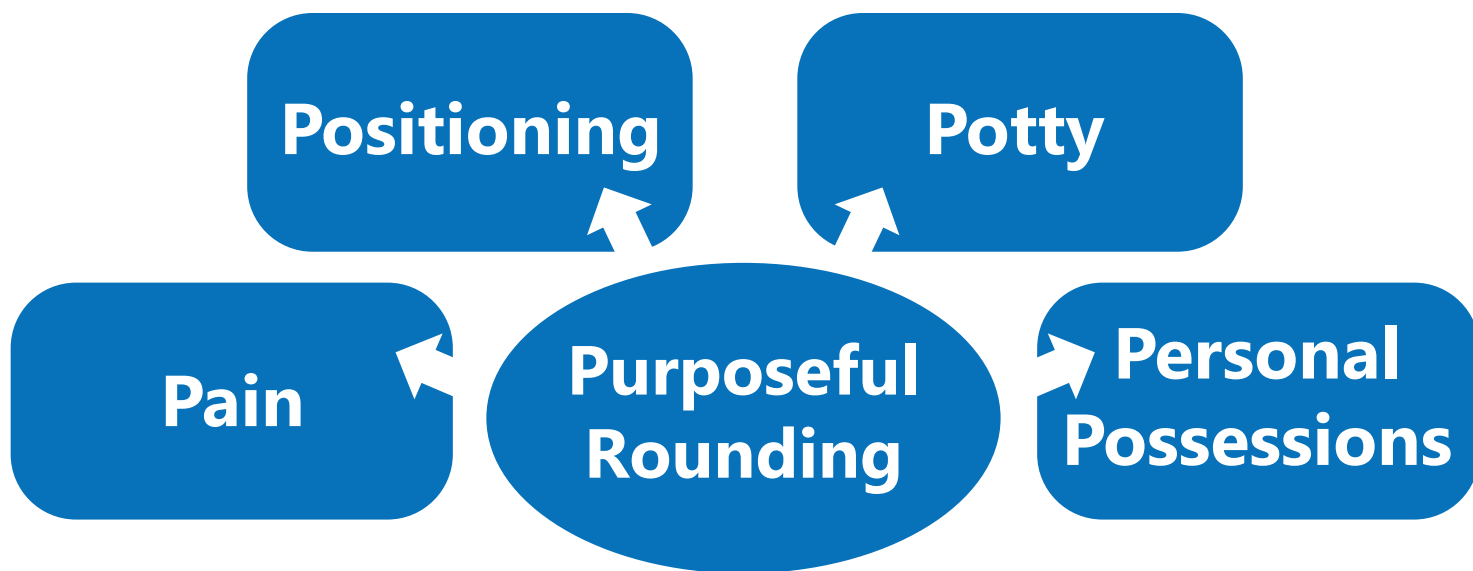


The 4 P's of Reducing the Risk of Falls

Prepared by Mary P. Chiles, RN RAC-CT 3.0, Chiles Healthcare Consulting, LLC



To help reduce the number of falls in our facility, we want to implement **Purposeful Rounding** for all staff. This process can be used for all patients; however, we want to focus on [all new admissions](#) to our facility and our patients at high risk for falls.

The 4 P's are to be addressed by anyone who enters a patient room for any reason:

(P) Pain

(P) Position

(P) Potty

(P) Possessions

Upon entering the room, you should:

Introduce yourself:

For Example: *"Mrs. Smith, my name is Sarah, and I will be your nurse, housekeeper, etc. today. I am here to clean your room, give you your medication, etc."*

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Address the 4 P's:

- **Pain** *"How is your pain?" or "Are you having any discomfort?"*
Medicate patient or schedule during upcoming rounds. For those of you who cannot do this - notify the nurse or responsible person who can provide medication.
- **Position** *"Are you comfortable, do you need to be turned or repositioned?" Observe the patient's position for safety and comfort and ensure call bells are accessible.*
Move the patient up in bed. Rearrange pillows. Offer extra blankets. Turn patients who are at high-risk for skin breakdown. (Again, if your position does not permit you to perform these tasks, notify someone who can.)
- **Potty**
 - If someone other than nursing is asking, the question should be, *"Do you need to use the bathroom?"* then notify someone that can assist them.
 - If someone from the Nursing Department is asking, the statement should be, *"Let's go to the bathroom to see if you can use it."* (Assist the patient to the bathroom.)
- **Position** *"Do you need me to move the phone, call light, trash can, water or your bedside table within reach?" "Is there anything I can get or do for you?"*
Arrange the bedside table, refill water pitcher, etc.

In addition:

- Perform any scheduled tasks that you entered the room for:
 - Physician/provider ordered procedures
 - Give scheduled treatment and/or medication
 - Clean the room
 - Empty the trash

Closing:

- **Communicate when you will return.**
- **Close with key words:** *"Is there anything else that I can do for you? I have time."*
- **Document care if completed during the round, and report/document any new concern.**